**Frankenstein by Mary Shelley Week 1: Prologue and Chapters 1-9**

**Pre-reading Questions: Answer BOTH questions in this section.**

1. List 10 adjectives to describe the monster, Frankenstein, you have encountered in pop culture.

2. In your opinion, with all the advancements in science today, should man attempt to create life? Why or why not?

**Vocabulary:**

Please write you definition for each of the following words in the space provided.

1. capacious: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

2. effusions: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

3. benevolence: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

4. countenance: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

5. sustenance: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

6. apparition: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

7. vehement: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

8. repugnance: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

9. annihilation: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

10. cursory: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

11. palpable: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

12. indefatigable: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

13. infallibly: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

14. consummation: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

15. toils: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

16. inanimate: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

17. apprehension: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

18. dissipate: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

19. docile: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

20. prognosticate: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Prologue: Answer one question in this section.**

1. What textual evidence is there in letter 1 that the explorer is going against his family’s wishes in making his journey?

2. Walton refers to a “great purpose” in his journey. Based on your reading of letter one, summarize what you think his purpose is.

**Letter 2: Answer one question in this section.**

1. Walton praises his lieutenant for his “courage and enterprise.” What other praise does he give him?

2. Walton describes himself by saying “there is something at work in my soul which I do not understand.” What impression does this give you about his character?

**Letter 3: Answer this question.**

1. Do you think Walton is as confident of success in his voyage as he pretends to be? What textual evidence supports your answer?

**Letter 4: Answer two questions in this section.**

1. What surprises Walton about the stranger?

2. How would you summarize the stranger’s state of mind using Walton’s description of his behavior?

3. Why do you think the stranger reacts like this to Walton’s description of his ambitions?

4. Explain why you think the stranger decides to tell Walton his story.

**Chapters 1-3: Answer four questions in this section.**

1. How do you think the character and values of Victor’s parents may have influenced the development of his own personality and beliefs?

2. How does Victor’s attitude to the world differ from Elizabeth’s?

3. Victor and his father have different views of ancient science. Describe their conflicting points of view.

4. What message do you think Mary Shelley might be offering about the dangers of unsupervised learning?

5. Ingolstadt represents a new era in Victor’s life. What are his hopes for life in this new place?

6. Why do Waldman’s words manage to inspire Victor? Consider how Waldman resolves the tension between modern and ancient science.

**Chapters 4-6: Answer five questions in this section.**

1. Based on the comparison between Waldman and Krempe, what does Victor suggest are the qualities of a good teacher?

2. What “astonishing” secret has Victor discovered?

3. Based on textual evidence, what is Victor’s true motivation? Support your answer with a quote.

4. What area of modern science could be compared with Victor’s research?

5. Summarize Victor’s reaction to his achievement.

6. Why do you think Victor chooses to keep the terrible results of his work a secret from Henry?

7. Again Shelley relies on letters to tell the narrative. Why do you think she chose to use letters again? What do letters convey about relationships and distance?

8. With Henry’s help, Victor is restored to a happier, more typically romantic outlook on life. Do you think he will be able to maintain this attitude? Explain your answer.

**Chapters 7-9: Answer four questions in this section.**

1. Summarize Victor’s reasons for deciding not to share and explain his suspicions. Are you convinced by them? Explain your answer.

2. Do you believe that Justine is guilty? Explain your answer.

3. Thinking ahead, what conflict do you think Victor will be face with at the trial of Justine?

4. Why doesn’t Victor take responsibility for the murder at the trial? Are you convinced by his reason?

5. What is your opinion of Victor’s words and the attitude they display? Explain.

6. Summarize Victor’s feelings towards the creature at this point.

7. In what way do Victor’s words suggest that his attitude has changed since he abandoned his scientific pursuits?

8. Do you think Victor deserves to be healed? Explain.